

creating an electronically-stored experiment table, said experiment table storing a record for an experiment, said experiment record comprising:

a first identifier identifying a target sample applied to a polymer probe array chip in said experiment;

a second identifier identifying said polymer probe array chip to which said target sample was applied in said experiment;

creating an electronically-stored chip table, said chip table storing a record for said polymer probe array chip, said chip record comprising:

said second identifier identifying said polymer probe array chip; and

a third identifier specifying a layout of polymer probes on said polymer probe array chip; and

associating an output image file with said electronically-stored chip table, wherein said polymer probe array chip is applied with a target sample derived from a biological source to produce said output image file.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of: performing an experiment wherein said target sample is applied to said polymer probe array chip.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of: creating an electronically-stored target table, said target table storing a record for said target sample, said target sample record comprising: said first identifier identifying said target sample; and a fourth identifier specifying parameters of preparation of said target sample.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said polymer probe array chip comprises an oligonucleotide array chip.

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5.6 (Amended) A computer-implemented method for managing information relating to processing of polymer probe arrays, said method comprising the steps of:

storing in an electronically-stored experiment table for each of a plurality of experiments, a first identifier identifying a target sample applied to an polymer probe array chip in a particular experiment;

storing in said electronically-stored experiment table for each of said plurality of experiments a second identifier identifying said polymer probe array chip to which said target sample was applied in said particular experiment;

storing in an electronically-stored chip table for each of a plurality of polymer probe array chips, said second identifier identifying a particular polymer probe array chip; and

storing in said electronically-stored chip table for each of said plurality of polymer probe arrays chips a third identifier specifying a layout of polymer probes on said polymer probe array chip; and

associating an output image file with said electronically-stored experiment table, wherein said polymer probe array chip is applied with a target sample derived from a biological source to produce said output image file.

8.9 (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon:

code for creating an electronically-stored experiment table, said experiment table listing for each of a plurality of experiments:

a first identifier identifying a target sample applied to an oligonucleotide array chip in a particular experiment;

a second identifier identifying said oligonucleotide array chip to which said target sample was applied in said particular experiment;

code for creating an electronically-stored chip table, said chip table listing for each of a plurality of oligonucleotide array chips:

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said second identifier identifying said particular oligonucleotide array chip; and

a third identifier specifying a layout of oligonucleotide probes on said particular oligonucleotide array chip; and

code for associating an output image file with said electronically-stored chip table, wherein said polymer probe array chip is applied with a target sample derived from a biological source to produce said output image file.

10. 11. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon:

an electronically-stored experiment table, said experiment table listing for each of a plurality of experiments:

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a first identifier identifying a target sample applied to an oligonucleotide array chip in a particular experiment;

a second identifier identifying said oligonucleotide array chip to which said target sample was applied in said particular experiment;

an electronically-stored chip table, said chip table listing for each of a plurality of oligonucleotide array chips:

said second identifier identifying a particular oligonucleotide array chip; and

a third identifier specifying a layout of oligonucleotide probes on said particular oligonucleotide array chip; and

associating an output image file with said electronically-stored experiment table, wherein said polymer probe array chip is applied with a target sample derived from a biological source to produce said output image file.

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